

Please amend the present application as follows:

Claims

The following is a copy of Applicant's claims that identifies language being added with underlining ("___") and language being deleted with strikethrough ("—"), or brackets ("[[]]"), as is applicable:

1. (Currently amended) A method for notarizing imaging data, comprising ~~the steps of~~:

~~accessing~~ retrieving imaging data on behalf of a user via a network from the user's personal imaging repository with a network-based notarization service via an imaging extension; and

electronically notarizing the imaging data with the network-based notarization service.

2-4. (Canceled)

5. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~[[4]]~~ 1, wherein the imaging extension comprises part of a user browser.

6. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~[[4]]~~ 1, wherein the imaging extension comprises part of the network-based notarization service.

7. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~1~~, wherein ~~the step of~~ electronically notarizing imaging data comprises modifying the imaging data by adding at least one of a stamp and a digital signature to the imaging data.

8. (Original) The method of claim 7, further comprising storing the modified imaging data.

9. (Currently amended) The method of claim 8, wherein the modified imaging data are stored in ~~a user~~ the user's personal imaging repository.

10. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein ~~the step of~~ electronically notarizing imaging data comprises generating a notarization certificate.

11. (Original) The method of claim 10, further comprising storing the notarization certificate.

12. (Currently amended) The method of claim 11, wherein the notarization certificate is stored in ~~a user~~ the user's personal imaging repository.

13. (Currently amended) A network-based notarization system for notarizing imaging data, comprising:

means for ~~accessing~~ retrieving imaging data on behalf of a user via a network from the user's personal imaging repository via an imaging extension; and

means for electronically notarizing the imaging data.

14-16. (Canceled)

17. (Original) The system of claim 16, wherein the imaging extension comprises part of a user browser.

18. (Original) The system of claim 16, wherein the imaging extension comprises part of the network-based notarization service.

19. (Original) The system of claim 13, wherein the means for electronically notarizing imaging data comprise means for modifying the imaging data by adding at least one of a stamp and a digital signature to the imaging data.

20. (Original) The system of claim 13, wherein the means for electronically notarizing imaging data comprise means for generating a notarization certificate.

21. (Currently amended) A network-based notarization service stored on computer-readable media, comprising:

logic configured to ~~access~~ retrieve a document on behalf of a user via an imaging extension, the document being stored in a personal imaging repository of the user; and

logic configured to electronically notarize the document.

22. (Original) The service of claim 21, wherein the logic configured to electronically notarize the document comprises logic configured to modify the document by adding at least one of a stamp and a digital signature to the document.

23. (Original) The service of claim 21, wherein the logic configured to electronically notarize the document comprises logic configured to generate a notarization certificate.

24. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the imaging extension comprises an application programming instructions (API).

25. (New) The method of claim 5, wherein content is downloaded from the network-based notarization service to the user browser, the content comprising generic access instructions that call upon the imaging extension to access the user's personal imaging repository.

26. (New) The method of claim 6, wherein the network-based notarization service determines the location of the user's personal imaging repository from a redirection address used to visit the network-based notarization service, the redirection address comprising information identifying the location of the user's personal imaging repository.

27. (New) The method of claim 26, wherein the redirection address is generated upon successful completion of an authentication procedure performed by the user by visiting a network-based authentication service.

28. (New) The method of claim 7, wherein the stamp comprises a watermark that is applied to a document that comprises the imaging data.

29. (New) The method of claim 7, wherein the digital signature comprises the identity of the network-based notarization service that notarized the imaging data and the date the notarization occurred.

30. (New) The method of claim 10, wherein the notarization certificate comprises the identity of the network-based notarization service that notarized the imaging data and the date the notarization occurred.

31. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the notarization is internally stored by the network-based notarization service that performed the notarization.